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the east of the ring plane *Thebit*, there is an almost perfectly straight mountain range, 14 miles long, which MAEDLER calls β and which, according to this prominent selenographer, has an average elevation of 157 toises, or 306 metres. MAEDLER compares the shape of this remarkable and surprising object to a cane, the upper end of which is ornamented by antlers; in small instruments it looks like a straight sword with a handle in the shape of a cross. To the east and near the centre of it is situated the deep ring plain *Birt* (MAEDLER = *Thebit* B), adjoining which on the southwest is a small crater. The diameter of *Birt* is nearly 2.5 geographical miles. Now, by starting from the center of this ring plain and proceeding in an exactly southerly direction, to a distance five times as great as its diameter, the new crater will be found. To the northeast of it, at a distance of five and nine geographical miles, respectively, there are two well known large craters of similar characteristics. It would naturally be of great value if a number of astronomers, who are provided with sufficiently powerful telescopes, would direct their attention to the optical verification of this crater, which was discovered by the aid of photography alone.

PRAGUE, July 3, 1892.

NOTE ON THE AUGUST METEORS OF 1892.

By Professor DANIEL KIRKWOOD.

The well known epoch of the August meteoric shower has just passed. The phenomena have been watched by the present writer for nearly half a century, and the failure of 1892 has been the most complete that has occurred in clear weather since the commencement of his observations. At Riverside this year shooting stars have not been more numerous from the 8th to the 11th of August than on ordinary nights. In fact not more than half a dozen were counted, though the evenings were quite clear on the 9th and 10th. Unless the experience elsewhere has been different, this fact must be regarded as indicating a notable gap in the cluster of August meteors. The writer has counted in former years from ten to a hundred meteors per hour. It will be interesting to watch next year to learn whether we have entered a wide chasm in the meteor ring, or whether the interruption is merely temporary.

RIVERSIDE, August 11.